

A SYSTEM AND METHOD INCLUDING A MERGING DRIVER FOR  
ACCESSING MULTIPLE DATA SOURCES

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10       A method enables access of a plurality of data sources by a single access operation where each data source in the plurality of data sources requires a different driver to access the data source so that there is a plurality of different drivers. The method includes  
15      using an application programming interface (API) for each driver in the plurality of different drivers. The API is substantially identical for each of the drivers in the plurality of different drivers. A merging driver receives the single access operation, and in response to  
20      the single access operation, the merging driver accesses the plurality of different drivers through the API.